

This is an extract from Brian O'Toole's report for Day 3

For the full report with all images, visit

<https://sites.google.com/view/2023-justice-desk-updates/ipa-assembly-2023?pli=1>



Day 3

Dear Sisters and Friends,

Over the course of the IPA Assembly I continue to post daily on the detail that motivates us all at this, the 8th International Presentation Association Assembly in Newfoundland, Canada. As well as the posts that I prepare and make you can check out the [International Presentation Association](#) web-site which will be updated regularly during this Assembly with photos and more.

Feel free to share with those who do not have the gift of the internet but who would love to be kept in the loop.

If you're asked for a password for the IPA website then use [Listen!](#) or [listen!](#)

You can check out the IPA Facebook Page [HERE](#)

Brian



Summer Solstice June 21st

Remembering you as we celebrate Summer Solstice in Ireland!

We celebrate with gratitude, the mystery & constancy of the sun's

generous gifting of light & warmth. Also remembering with gratitude all you who like the sun are faithfully present, attentive & generous in your giving of yourself, in the service of life.

Blessings with love & gratitude, Sr. Anne McDermott

Day 3 Tuesday June 20th 2023

Céad Míle Fáilte Romhaibh - 100,000 Welcomes

On Sunday last, those delegates who had made it to the Assembly were welcomed by the Parish Community of the Basilica where each attending country processed in welcome announcing their intention to be present. The music and liturgy were as warm and welcoming as the congregation whom we got to meet afterwards over a bite of lunch.

The music was a performance worthy of the biggest theatre and was a real treat for all. We were encouraged to sing out and join in at every stage as we were welcomed more than once. You can see a little of this in the video below at <https://youtu.be/SP25KxvefX4> [A recording of the livestream of the full Mass will be available at a later date.]



Presentation Basilica Procession, St Johns, 2023

Unlisted



International Presentatio...
125 subscribers

Analytics

Edit video

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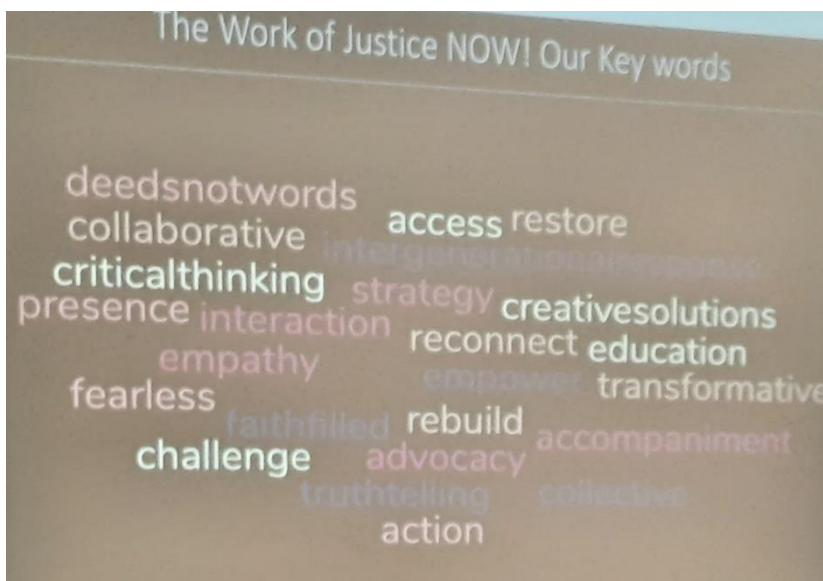


As we move from the 'I' to the 'We'

After our morning ritual Sr. Anne Lane began by taking us back into the IPA story and encouraged us to connect once again with Sr. Kathleen Tynan's story [HERE](#). This was to be the jumping off point for our first piece of contemplative dialogue - where we were asked to consider that which inspires 'me' in my work of justice.

Some of that which came up at our table in what it is that inspires 'me' to work in the area of Justice - *Family, Gratitude, Sense of Fairness, Being confronted by injustice, using Christs eyes to see the marginalised, recognising Jesus as being counter cultural, knowing that injustice will remain silent unless we voice its damage.*

The Ongoing Work of Justice 8 of the Justice Contacts from each of the participating parts of the world were asked the question 'What is Justice Now?' - and they prepared a script and slide presentation on this topic. Each was given 4 /5 minutes to speak and indeed two who spoke were not in attendance but their video presentation was shown to the gathered group. Annotolia Muzata PBVM Zimbabwe was denied a visa and so couldn't attend but technology allowed for her participation. Below is a pdf of the slide show but you can download the full PowerPoint presentation [HERE](#) and this includes the video presentations in full.

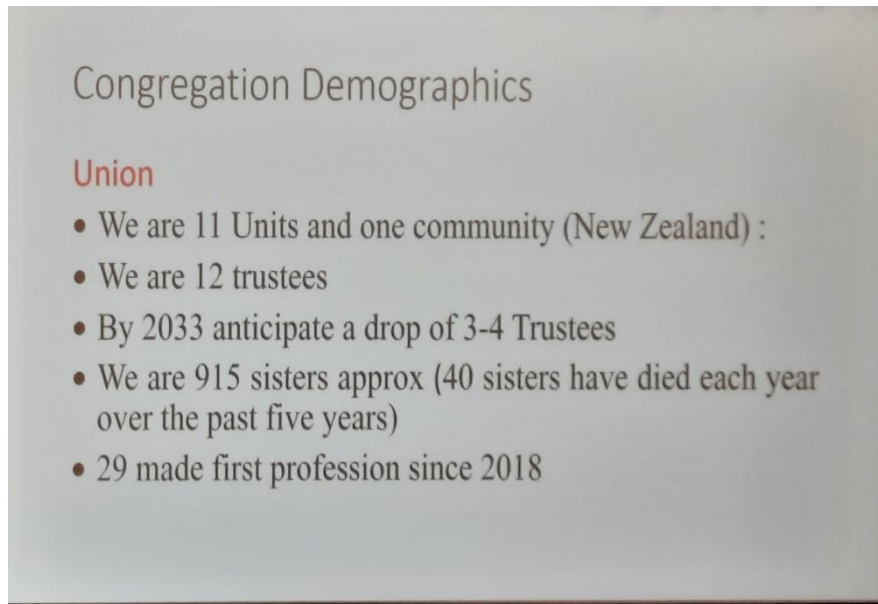


Contemplative Dialogue - After hearing from all the Justice Contacts we were then asked to consider - What are the green shoots that we notice?

See wordle here for some of the key words that recurred.

The first piece of work in the afternoon session came from direct input from the leaders of the Union, Society and the Conference.

Sr. Julie Watson of the Union shared with us some of the congregational statistics that are important to know as we begin the process of discerning for change.

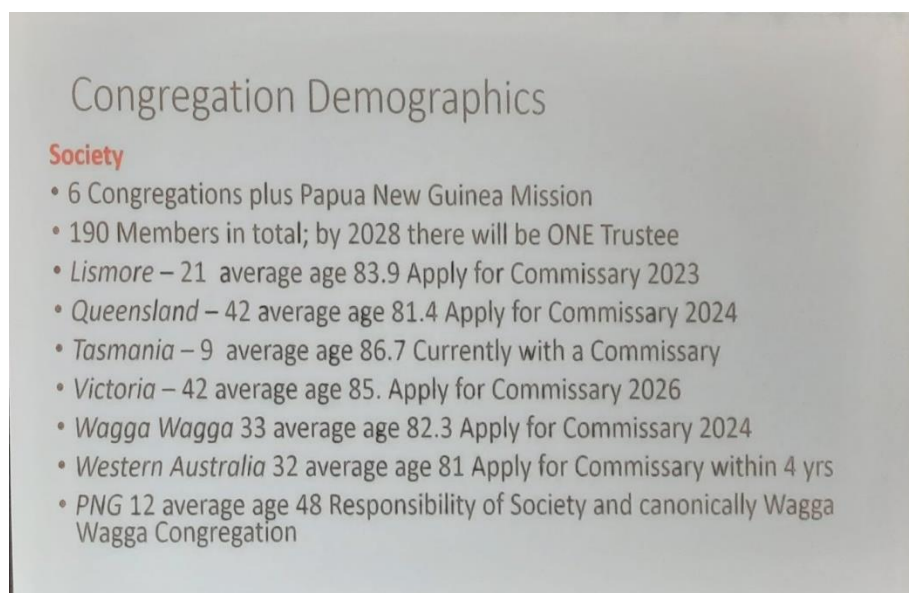


Congregation Demographics

Union

- We are 11 Units and one community (New Zealand) :
- We are 12 trustees
- By 2033 anticipate a drop of 3-4 Trustees
- We are 915 sisters approx (40 sisters have died each year over the past five years)
- 29 made first profession since 2018

Sr. Mary Franzmann from the Society then offered some detail on the Congregational statistics from Society.



Congregation Demographics

Society

- 6 Congregations plus Papua New Guinea Mission
- 190 Members in total; by 2028 there will be ONE Trustee
- *Lismore* – 21 average age 83.9 Apply for Commissary 2023
- *Queensland* – 42 average age 81.4 Apply for Commissary 2024
- *Tasmania* – 9 average age 86.7 Currently with a Commissary
- *Victoria* – 42 average age 85. Apply for Commissary 2026
- *Wagga Wagga* 33 average age 82.3 Apply for Commissary 2024
- *Western Australia* 32 average age 81 Apply for Commissary within 4 yrs
- *PNG* 12 average age 48 Responsibility of Society and canonically Wagga Wagga Congregation

Sr Carmen Hernandez from the Conference then offered some congregational statistics from the Conference.

Congregation Demographics

Conference

- 5 Member Congregations w total of 250 Members

Aberdeen – 44 Median age 84

Dubuque – 79 Median age 78

New Windsor – 74 Median age 80

All 3 above looking for new Leadership Models

San Francisco – 46 Median age 87 (Planning for a Commissary within 5 years)

Staten Island – 7 Currently have a Commissary

Contemplative Dialogue - After hearing from the leaders we were asked to consider the hints emerging that we need to be noticing.

What came out of these deliberations are the substance for further discernment around Mission, Structure, Communications, Vision and more.

And finally... did you work it out... It means that a home without a woman in it is a cold and empty place..



A 24-minute rough cut of Dr Jessie Roger's presentation from Tuesday is now available to view on YouTube. This is an 'Unlisted' video so only those with the link can watch it:

<https://youtu.be/yfFA0xOol0c>

